

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
CHELMSFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR 1897,

CHELMSFORD :
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Chelmsford Rural Sanitary District.

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1897.

Sub-Registration District.			Area in Acres.	Population Census, 1891.
1.	Chelmsford, part of.	One parish ...	692	293
2.	Ingatestone.	Eleven parishes	26,541	6,175
3.	Writtle.	Six "	18,079	5,060
4.	Great Waltham.	Eight "	19,080	5,133
5.	Great Baddow.	Six "	15,033	6,513
Total 			79,425	23,174

	Population.	No. of inhabited houses.	No. of uninhabited houses.	No. of houses building.
1881	23,130	5,066	377	6
1891	23,174	5,102	319	17

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS

OF THE

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the Regulations of the Local Government Board, I have the honour to present to you my report for the past year.

In the above Table certain information with reference to the divisions of the district, and the population of each sub-division, taken from the last Census reports is given. For

statistical purposes it is important that we should be able to estimate the population at the middle of each year with a fair degree of accuracy. This is somewhat difficult in rapidly increasing districts, and even in a rural district like ours it is not an easy matter to form a correct estimate six years after the latest Census. In most of the parishes it may be taken that the population is stationary, but in Writtle, Great Baddow, and Springfield the number of houses which have been recently erected indicates a marked increase in population. I shall probably be near the mark in adding 100 to the population of Writtle, thus increasing the Writtle sub-district to 5,160; and 250 to the population of Springfield and Great Baddow, increasing the Great Baddow sub-district to 6,763. These figures have been taken for calculating the various statistics in the last division of this report. Springfield and Great Baddow adjoining the Borough of Chelmsford, and being upon higher ground, are likely to increase in favour as suburban places of residence. The Electrical Engineering Works erected during the year just over the Chelmsford border, in Writtle parish, are likely to further increase the popularity of Writtle as a place of residence for the workmen. Many reside there now, as rents and rates are lower than in Chelmsford, and each new cottage has a fair-sized garden. The bicycle is the favourite aid to locomotion, and morning and evening quite a number of workmen are to be seen going to and from their work on these machines.

Water Supplies. The two parishes of Great Baddow and Springfield are supplied with water from springs in the first mentioned parish, the water being pumped into a tank placed upon a lofty tower. During the summer it was very difficult to keep the supply constant, and as the Danbury mains when extended will be within about a mile of one of the Great Baddow mains, I have suggested that these should be united. The water at Danbury is under sufficient pressure to find its way by gravitation into the Great Baddow tank, and as we hope to have a surplus at Danbury of 20 or 30 or more

thousands of gallons per day, this might as well be utilized in Springfield and Great Baddow as allowed to run waste at Danbury. The Great Baddow springs are not, in my opinion, as well protected as is desirable, and recently a Committee appointed for the purpose met me at the Water Works, and after examining the surrounding area, decided to recommend your Council to endeavour to purchase about half an acre of ground at each side of the present site. To this you have agreed, and the Clerk has received instructions to enter into negotiations with the respective owners.

The works in connection with the extension of the Danbury mains are now in full progress. Little Baddow lying on the opposite side of the hill to the springs, the water to supply that parish has to be pumped into the Danbury tank. This is about to be enlarged. A duplicate Campbell Oil Engine has been fixed at the pumping station. The Little Baddow mains are now completed, but already there is a demand for their extension, and I hope during the coming year to see this carried out. The other extensions now in progress are to supply the parish of Runwell, the hamlet of Battles Bridge (Rettenden parish), the portion of Woodham Ferris between the village and the river, and the hamlets of Butts Green and Howe Green in the parish of Sandon. The total cost of these improvements and extensions will be close upon £5,500, and the Surveyor hopes to complete the whole by March next. Applications are constantly being received for extensions to supply farms. Each is considered by the Works Committee, and the amount of the contribution apportioned to the owner has always been so reasonable that terms satisfactory to both the owner and the Council have been arranged. This continual demand for further extensions is a positive proof of the satisfactory character of the supply and of the public appreciation of the enlightened policy of your Council. Commencing first with the village of Danbury, and finding this successful, additional works of supply have been and are being carried out, and when the present exten-

sions are completed practically, the whole of the district lying upon the London clay will be intersected with water mains, and the parishes of Danbury, East Hanningfield, Rettendon, Runwell, Sandon, and Little Baddow will have an ample supply of excellent water. At present the whole is derived from one spring on Danbury Common with an average flow of about 70,000 gallons per day, but another spring, or rather series of springs, at the same elevation and only a few hundred yards away is being purchased. This will give us at least an additional 35,000 gallons a day. The catastrophe at Maidstone having emphasised the importance of protecting such springs from pollution, a committee met me on the Common and decided to recommend your Council to cause an unclimable fence to be placed round the spring and reservoir, leaving a clear area of 15 feet all round. The hill rises rapidly above the springs and the collecting area is uncultivated ground, so that I think this will be ample protection.

At Ingatestone, difficulties having arisen in connection with the site first selected for collecting subsoil water to augment the present supply, a fresh site has been examined, and as it yields an abundance of water an agreement to purchase has been entered into. The ground water level is very near the surface, hence every precaution will have to be taken to prevent pollution. No doubt the ingenuity of the Surveyor will be equal to the emergency. The Parish Council being satisfied with the scheme, an application will shortly be made to the Local Government Board for permission to borrow the amount necessary to purchase the land, erect the pumping station, and extend the mains.

The public supplies at Great Waltham and Little Waltham have given rise to no complaint, but it is desirable that the surroundings of the springs utilized in these villages be examined to ascertain whether they are sufficiently protected.

A public well and pump have been provided for the supply of water to a large group of cottages at Chignal St. James.

The public pumps have been kept in repair, and samples of water from each examined. At frequent, but at perhaps too irregular intervals, water from the larger supplies have been analysed, and I have always found them satisfactory.

The village of Writtle is the only one of any size in your district without a public supply of water. A scheme has been sanctioned by the Local Government Board, but the works have not been commenced on account of the difficulty in defining a rateable area. This I understand has at last been satisfactorily arranged, and I hope that the sanction of the Local Government Board having been obtained the work will be proceeded with forthwith.

Sewerage. The above remarks concerning Writtle apply equally to the sewerage of the village. Every year the necessity for sewers becomes more urgent. The special drainage area having been defined, the work will doubtless be commenced directly the extension of the Danbury mains is completed.

In the village of Danbury an inspection revealed a considerable number of nuisances arising from defective drains and privy cesspits. Every house was inspected, and many of the privies have been converted into earth or pail closets, and certain drainage defects have been remedied.

I have inspected and reported upon a considerable number of dilapidated and dirty houses, and have made five representations under the Housing of the Working Classes Act of houses, in my opinion, unfit for human habitation.

At Ingatestone a small building estate near the centre of the village has been laid out, and a number of cottages are being erected. This is directly the result of the agitation in consequence of which your Council held an inquiry at Ingatestone to decide whether it was desirable to take steps to adopt Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act in order to acquire land and erect cottages thereon. Doubtless the overcrowding which exists in the parishes of Ingatestone and Fryerning will gradually be abated.

In June, an application was received from a person desiring to be registered under the Infant Life Protection Act. She wished to take charge of four infants. The personal character of the applicant and the sanitary condition of the house, &c., being satisfactory, the application was granted.

In November I condemned the carcass of a pig which the Inspector found partly dressed in a slaughter-house in Great Baddow. The animal had been suffering from some wasting disease and from an injury to the spine, caused by a bullock. The carcass was destroyed. The owner and butcher were warned, but no prosecution was undertaken.

At length the Council has undertaken to publicly scavenge the populous portion of Springfield parish. An enormous amount of house refuse was removed, and the parish will be the cleaner and healthier for its removal.

The Inspector's report shows that a considerable amount of work has been done in his department. The inspections are not so systematic or regular as could be desired, but as Mr. Smith is not only Inspector, but Road Surveyor and Engineer to the Council, it is impossible for him to give more attention to the work than he has done, and I desire to bear my testimony to the satisfactory manner in which he has carried out the important engineering works designed by him.

I have now described briefly the more important improvements effected during the past year, and others which are in progress.

The most important requirements are the provision of a proper water supply and system of sewers for the village of Writtle. There are other parishes, such as Great Leighs, West Hanningfield, and Stock, in which the water supply is not satisfactory either on account of deficiency in quantity or quality. There are many cottages which are far from being satisfactory, and overcrowding is common. However, the worst of these are being dealt with as occasion arises, and other matters are simply standing over until the works at

present on hand are completed. Few, if any, District Councils display greater interest in their work, and the progress which has been made during the time I have had the honour to be your Medical Officer of Health has afforded me the greatest satisfaction. It is even more worthy of record that the improvements are fully appreciated by the inhabitants of the district.

THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

Save for about six weeks during the summer the Hospital has been in constant use. At the end of 1896 there were 8 patients in the Hospital; during 1897, 34 patients were admitted and 39 discharged, and 3 remain at present under treatment. Of the 34 admitted during the year, 29 were suffering from Scarlet Fever, 4 from Diphtheria, and 1 from Typhoid Fever. All were discharged cured with the exception of the patient suffering from Typhoid Fever, who died the day after admission.

The Scarlet Fever patients were detained in the Hospital an average of 41 days.

The Diphtheria patients were detained 10, 16, 18 and 16 days respectively.

In no instance did a discharged patient convey infection to his or her home when discharged. The clothing is all disinfected by steam before the patient leaves the hospital.

The disinfecting apparatus has been in constant use, and a large amount of bedding, clothing, &c., has been disinfected for Institutions, Public Bodies, and private individuals outside our district.

At Midsummer the Clerk made out for the Hospital Committee the following interesting table:—

HOSPITAL ACCOUNT.

	1895.	1896.	Half-year ending Lady-day, 1897.	Total 2½ years.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Salary of Medical Supt. ....	...	25 0 0	25 0 0	50 0 0
Wages, Servants, Nurses, &c.	45 8 0	67 5 8	47 11 6	169 5 2
Provisions	18 1 3	22 10 1	27 15 4	68 6 8
Conveyance of Patients, &c.	4 2 10	11 4 0	12 0 0	27 6 10
Medicine, &c., Ext. Beef	7 16 0	14 17 5	6 15 3	29 8 8
Fuel and Light	8 7 3	29 5 8	8 1 8	45 14 7
Repairs	4 0 0	3 13 6	5 9 7	13 3 1
Rates, Taxes and Insurance	13 3 8	18 2 0	6 15 10	38 1 6
Printing, Books, &c.	6 18 11	0 4 0	...	7 2 11
Expenses of Disinfection .....	...	6 15 6	3 9 6	10 5 0
Sundries	4 8 9	4 10 6	0 3 0	9 2 3
£	112 6 8	203 8 4	143 1 8	458 16 8
Instalment of Loan	95 15 5	95 16 3	95 19 1	287 10 9
Furniture	80 6 7	6 2 1	0 9 4	86 18 0
New Buildings .....	...	55 16 3	...	55 16 3
Disinfectant and Room .....	...	84 15 1	...	84 15 1
£	288 8 8	445 18 0	239 10 1	973 16 9
<i>Receipts.</i>				
Maintenance of Patients	21 11 0	19 17 0	15 7 0	56 15 0
For Disinfection .....	...	30 14 0	9 2 7	40 16 7
...	...	1 0 0	...	...
Profit on Gravel	106 2 9	94 0 2	51 7 8	251 10 7
£	127 13 9	145 11 2	75 17 3	349 2 2

During the two-and-a-half years covered by the Table, 56 patients had been treated in the Hospital for a total of 1,809 days.

The total cost of maintaining the Hospital during that period is shown to be £458 16s. 10d., giving an average of £8 3s. 10d. per patient, or 5s. 1d. per patient per day. Compared with the cost in other similar hospitals, this is exceedingly reasonable. The payments received from patients amounted to about £57, the disinfecting apparatus earned over £40, whilst the gravel and sand taken from the pit in the Hospital Ground was valued at over £250.

The Hospital has been of the greatest possible use, and I do not know how we managed without it. It is worth noting that since the Hospital has been in use the case of Infectious Diseases notified has only been about half the previous average.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 113 cases have been notified, 53 males and 60 females.

Diphtheria ...	...	14 cases.
Croup ...	...	0 „
Typhoid Fever ...	...	9 „
Puerperal Fever ...	...	2 „
Scarlet Fever ...	...	72 „
Erysipelas ...	...	16 „

Save for limited outbreaks of Scarlet Fever the district has been singularly free from the notifiable infectious diseases. The diminution in the prevalence of Diphtheria is remarkable. From 84 in 1893 the number has fallen to 14 in the past year. This is a subject for congratulation. The Typhoid Fever cases are also below the average. Had it not been for the Hospital we should undoubtedly have had a widespread epidemic of Scarlet Fever. Unfortunately some misguided parents in Galleywood and Rettendon would not allow their children to be removed, and as a consequence numerous cases occurred in these localities.

	Diphth- eria.	Ty- phoid Fever.	Scarlet Fever.	Ery- sipelas.	Total.
Runwell	0	0	5	0	5
Danbury	1	0	6	0	7
Springfield	4	2	2	3	11
Good Easter	0	0	1	1	2
Rettendon	0	0	13	0	13
Battles Bridge	0	0	2	0	2
Great Leighs	0	0	5	0	5
Writtle	1	0	5	1	7
Great Baddow	0	1	5	7	13
Great Waltham	4	1	3	0	8
Woodham Ferris	0	0	0	1	1
Ingatestone	3	1	0	0	4
Roxwell	0	0	0	1	1
East Hanningfield	0	0	4	0	4
Little Waltham	0	0	2	0	2
Mashbury	0	0	2	0	2
Highwood	0	0	3	0	3
Boreham	0	0	1	0	1
Little Baddow	1	4	0	0	5
Galleywood	0	0	13	0	13
Broomfield	0	0	0	2	2
Totals ...	14	9	72	16	111

SMALL POX.

No cases occurred during the year.

DIPHThERIA AND CROUP.

No case of croup was notified, and only 14 of diphtheria. Of these, 4 occurred in Springfield, 4 in Great Waltham, and 3 in Ingatestone. The 14 include 3 or 4 cases in which no Diphtheria bacilli could be detected in the exudation on the tonsils.

At Howe Street, Great Waltham, several suspicious cases of sore throat occurred in April. Cultivations were made from two patients with negative results. Early in May an undoubted case of diphtheria occurred, followed by a second 10 days later, and in November a child living in one of the same houses was attacked. Three of the Springfield cases occurred in two houses, and were notified on successive days. At that time there were many cases of sore throat due to influenza. One primary case was almost certainly introduced from without the district, and two others were associated with filth nuisances. Most of the cases were very mild, and only one proved fatal.

The age and sex distribution was as under :—

	Under 5 yrs.	5.15	15.25	25.35	35.50	TOTALS.
Males	0	3	1	0	4
Females.....	...	1	6	2	1	10

It is particularly noticeable that only one child was attacked. No less than nine of the patients were over 21 years of age.

SCARLET FEVER.

This disease has occurred in no less than 13 different parishes, but those chiefly affected were Great Baddow, Rettendon, and Runwell. The disease was of a very mild type, and in several instances nothing was known of the outbreak until several cases had occurred, no medical man having been called in. It has been more or less prevalent all through the year, but a large proportion occurred during the months of January and February. A girl who had been in service at Southend returned home suffering from sore throat. She had slept with a girl who also had sore-throat. A few days after her return four of her brothers and sisters were attacked with Scarlet Fever, and a considerable number of other cases followed. Another outbreak was associated with the return home of a girl who had been discharged from the Haverstock Hill Fever Hospital. She had been suffering from Scarlet Fever, and was detained in the Hospital eight weeks. She went to some friends and stayed nine days, then came home. The outbreak in this house did not occur until a fortnight after.

The age and sex distribution of the cases was as under :—

	Under 1 year	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	Over 35	TOTAL.
Males	0	6	17	6	5	0	0	34
Females.....	1	6	18	9	2	2	0	38

TYPHOID FEVER.

Nine cases only were notified during the year, four from Little Baddow, two from Springfield, and one each from Great Baddow, Ingatestone, and Great Waltham. The first patient at Little Baddow was a woman who had been away on a visit. She got wet when returning home and had a severe cold. On the 15th day after returning she was certified to be suffering

from Typhoid Fever. The three other patients were infected from this ease. The two eases at Springfield were not related, although both occurred about the same time. One occurred in the Gaol. The other was attributed to an effluvium nuisance due to the deposition of blood and offal from a slaughter-house on a field near the house. The patient, however, had been away from home, and might have been infected outside the district. The patient at Great Waltham was almost certainly infected whilst visiting at a seaside resort. The patient at Great Baddow was also infected outside the district, and probably by oysters.

The age and sex distribution of the cases was as under :—

	Under 10 yrs.	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-50	TOTALS.
Males	0	2	1	0	1	4
Females...	0	2	1	0	2	5

PUERPERAL FEVER.

Two cases were notified by one practitioner. A midwife attended the first ease, and when fever set in the medical man was sent for. The cause was obscure. About three weeks later one of the patients attended by this gentleman was attacked. The instruments used were destroyed, all the clothing disinfected by steam, &c. No other case followed.

MEASLES, WHOOPING COUGH, INFLUENZA, &c.

An outbreak of Whooping Cough occurred in Woodham Ferris about January. In March, Mumps and Whooping Cough were prevalent in Great Leighs. In June an epidemic of Whooping Cough in South Hanningfield so reduced the attendance that the schools had to be closed. In November, Whooping Cough and Influenza became very prevalent in

Margaretting, and the schools had to be closed. In December a number of cases of sore throat were reported from Good Easter. I found that this was due to a widespread epidemic of a mild form of Mumps. Diphtheria was suspected, but I found no reason to confirm this. The schools, however, were closed for a short time. Cases of sore-throats were very common in Great Leighs, Great Waltham, Margaretting, and Little Waltham, but only in one instance (Great Waltham) did any develop into Diphtheria. Influenza was the most common cause.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The total number of deaths registered during the year is about the average for the last seven years 1890-6, but slightly in excess of any year since 1893. The deaths registered in the district numbered 311, but of these 5 were of persons not residing in the district. The deaths in the Workhouse and Infirmary of persons belonging to the district numbered 37. The deaths therefore which have to be taken into account in calculating the death-rate amount to $311 + 37 - 5 = 343$. This gives a death-rate for the year of 14·6.

The most noteworthy feature of the year's returns is the large proportion of deaths amongst aged people. Of those over 65 years of age 167 died during the year, whereas only 127 such deaths occurred in 1896.

The deaths from the seven principal zymotic (or infectious) diseases were much below the average, the death-rate from these causes being only 0·7 per 1,000. It is particularly noteworthy that there has only been one death from Diphtheria in the whole of the district. Out of the 17 deaths from zymotic diseases 7 were due to Whooping Cough and 6 to Diarrhoea, Scarlet Fever caused 1 death, Typhoid Fever 1, Puerperal Fever 1, and Diphtheria 1.

The Infantile Mortality is about the average 91, that is to say, the proportion of children dying before reaching the age of one year, to 1,000 births is 91.

In Table 1 the death-rates, birth-rates, &c., for a series of years are given for the purpose of comparison.

In Table II the death-rates are given for the various sub-registration districts. The figures vary considerably, and are really of no use for determining the relative healthiness of the districts. For this purpose the statistics covering a long series of years must be compared. These are given for different parishes and groups of parishes in Table III. It is a subject for congratulation that the death-rate for Ingatestone and Fryerning continues steadily to decline.

Tables IV. and V. are those required by the Local Government Board. Table IV. shows the deaths in the various sub-districts, classed according to diseases and ages.

Table V. gives the number of cases of Infectious Disease notified in each sub-district, together with the number removed for isolation in the Hospital.

Table VI. contains a monthly Meteorological summary, together with statistical information with reference to the number of deaths, ages of persons dying, number of cases of Infectious Disease notified, &c., each month.

Deaths from Phthisis. These have been commented upon in previous reports, and comparisons made between different districts, especially those on the London clay and on pervious gravel. When a further series of death-rates are available the subject will be again referred to.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN C. THRESH.

TABLE I.

BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, AND INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING 1897, COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEARS.

Period.	Per 1,000 Population.			Deaths of infants under 1 year per 1,000 Births.
	Birth-rate.	Death-rate all causes.	Death-rate Zymotic Diseases.	
1897	24·7	14·6	·72	91
1896	24·4	13·0	1·49	88
1895	25·3	13·9	1·03	94
1894	22·7	12·8	·55	72
1893	26·2	14·9	1·65	88
1892	24·5	18·2	1·85	96
1891	26·6	15·5	·95	91
1890	26·8	15·6	2·6	105
1881-90	28·0	15·3	1·65	92

TABLE II.

DEATH-RATES FROM ALL CAUSES, AND FROM THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL ZYMOTIC DISEASES AND INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE VARIOUS SUB-REGISTRATION DISTRICTS.

Sub-registration Districts.	1896.			1897.		
	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infantile Mortality.	Death-rate.	Zymotic Death-rate.	Infantile Mortality.
Writtle	10·7	1·3	85	14·2	·19	66
Great Waltham ...	12·4	1·3	101	15·8	·97	110
Great Baddow ...	14·7	2·2	110	13·3	·44	102
Ingatestone	12·3	·6	57	15·5	1·29	81

TABLE III.
DEATH-RATES IN THE PARISHES PER 1,000
POPULATION.

PARISHES.	Popula- tion.	Death- rate, 1897.	16 years, 1881 to 1896.
Boreham, Little Baddow, Danbury and Sandon...	2,890	11·8	14·1
Runwell, Rettendon, Woodham Ferris and the Hanningfields	2,830	15·5	13·4
Roxwell, Chignall, Good Easter, Mashbury and Pleshey	2,155	17·2	15·2
Writtle (including Highwood)	2,565	14·1	14·3
Great Waltham	2,285	17·1	14·3
Broomfield, Little Waltham, Little Leighs and Great Leighs	2,354	13·6	16·1
Springfield	2,700	9·4	14·9
Great Baddow (including Galleywood)	2,180	15·1	15·8
Margaretting and Widford	815	20·85	14·9
Stock and Buttsbury	1,044	9·4	15·6
Ingatestone and Fryerning	1,680	14·8	16·7

In calculating the above death-rates, the deaths of inmates of the Union Workhouse have been added to those of the parishes to which they belonged.

TABLE IV.

TABLE of DEATHS during the year 1897, in the Chelmsford Rural Sanitary District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

[illegible]

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

[illegible]

TABLE V.
TABLE of POPULATION, BIRTHS, and of NEW CASES of INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1897, in the Chelmsford Rural Sanitary District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.	POPULATION AT ALL AGES.		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY, COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.												NUMBER OF SUCH CASES REMOVED FROM THEIR HOMES FOR TREATMENT IN ISOLATION HOSPITALS.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
	Census 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1897.			1	2	3	4	5	FEVERS.					Typhus.	Membranous (Group).	Scarlatina.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
										Typhoid or Enteric.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.											Erysipelas.	Total.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
Writtle	5060	5160	137	Under 5 upwards.</

“The Notification of Infectious Disease” has been compulsory in the District since 1890.
An Isolation Hospital is provided.

SUMMARY of WORK done through the Sanitary Inspector in
the Rural Sanitary District of Chelmsford during the year
ending December 31st, 1897.

	Total Number for Year.	Results of Inspection, &c.
1. Complaints received	210	
2. Nuisances detected	230	
3. Nuisances abated	245	
4. Notices served	260	
5. Summonses taken out	—	
6. Convictions	—	
7. Cottages inspected	1,200	
8. Lodging-houses inspected	—	
9. Slaughter-houses inspected	21	
10. Bakehouses inspected	31	
11. Dairies and Milk Shops inspected	37	
12. Cowsheds inspected	56	
13. Workshops inspected	—	
14. Filthy houses cleansed, sec. 46 Public Health Act, 1875	—	
15. Houses disinfected	55	
16. Overcrowding abated	23	
17. Houses placed in habitable repair	87	
18. Houses closed	10	
19. Houses erected or re built, for which "Certificates" were applied	37	
20. "Certificates" granted	35	
21. " " deferred	2	
22. Wells sunk or improved supplies of water afforded	6	
23. Wells cleansed or repaired	10	
24. Wells closed	—	
25. Houses connected with sewers	25	
26. " " with water mains	45	
27. Earth, pail, or improved Privies constructed or existing Privies altered	47	
28. Privies and W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water ..	79	
29. Cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered	17	
30. Animals improperly kept removed	—	
31. Samples of water taken for Analysis	57	
32. Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding	—	
33. Seizures of unsound Meat, &c.	1	

(Signed) I. C. SMITH.

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